

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PRETOR 04260 251540Z
ACTION IO-14

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PORG, WA
SUBJECT: NAMIBIA: OFFICE SPACE SITUATION

1. BENNIE JOSEPH, WINDHOEK REALTOR AND PROPERTY MANAGER FOR THE KALAHARI SANDS HOTEL, TALKED TO POL COUNS TAYLOR DURING LATTER'S VISIT TO NAMIBIA LAST WEEK ABOUT OFFICE AND ACCOMMODATION SPACE IN WINDHOEK AREA. USUN MAY WISH TO PASS ON TO THE APPROPRIATE UN OFFICE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION PROVIDED BY JOSEPH.

2. WINDHOEK HAS A TOTAL OF 842 HOTEL ROOMS. THE ONLY FIRST CLASS HOTELS ARE THE VERY SMALL FURSTENHOF AND THE KALAHARI. THE LATTER HAS 200 ROOMS AND USUALLY 75 PERCENT OCCUPANCY.

3. THE AG'S OFFICE WILL BE MOVING TO THE BERG HOTEL AT THE END OF AUGUST. THE SAG HAS PURCHASED THE BERG AS WELL AS FIVE HOUSES IN WINDHOEK "FOR FUTURE EMBASSY STAFF." THE 14TH FLOOR OF THE KALAHARI WHICH THE AG'S OFFICE NOW OCCUPIES WILL THUS BE AVAILABLE AT THE END OF AUGUST. THERE ARE 15 ROOMS ON THIS FLOOR. IN ADDITION, THE AG'S OFFICE WILL ALSO BE GIVING UP THE THREE SUITES WHICH IT RENTS ON THE 12TH FLOOR (THERE IS NO 13TH FLOOR). AMONG THESE IS THE AG'S PERSONAL SUITE WHICH CONSISTS OF A KITCHEN, DINING ROOM, FAMILY ROOM, 4 BEDROOMS, STUDY, AND A "BOARD ROOM", WHICH SEATS 22.

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4. JOSEPH CONFIRMED THE VIEW OF SEVERAL OTHER WINDHOEK RESIDENTS THAT OFFICE SPACE IN TOWN WAS SCARCE. JOSEPH SAID THAT THE SIX PRINCIPAL OFFICE BUILDINGS WERE FULLY OCCUPIED. HE SUGGESTED THAT THE UNSR, WHEN HE ARRIVES, MIGHT WISH TO LOOK AT A COOPER MINE COMPLEX 30 KILOMETERS OUT OF TOWN AT OCHIHASI. THIS COMPLEX, WHICH WAS ABANDONED

LAST DECEMBER WHEN THE MINE CLOSED, HAS 28 HOUSES, SINGLE
QUARTERS FOR 40, A CLUB HOUSE AND OTHER FACILITIES.

5. TAYLOR ALSO SUGGESTS THAT THE UNSR INVESTIGATE THE
POSSIBILITY OF OCCUPYING THE BUILDINGS AT EROS AIRFIELD
PREVIOUSLY USED BY THE SOUTHWEST AFRICA MILITARY COMMAND. EROS
AIRFIELD IS ONLY FIVE MINUTES FROM DOWNTOWN.
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Message Attributes

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